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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. 25X1A

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 2 June 1950

SUBJECT Leopoldov Penitentiary and Novaky
Hard Labor Camp

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
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NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF
INFO. [REDACTED]SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. 25X1X

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Leopoldov penitentiary (15 km NE of Tyrnau-trnava)1. Commandant:

a. Dr. Slavik, Eugen Roth by his correct name, a Jew from Panska Bystrica, about 45, was removed from his office in the early summer of 1949. His successor is:

b. Gustav Michalik, former prison commandant of the Bratislava superior court, born in Devinska Nova Ves, a fanatic Communist, about 38 to 45 years of age. Michalik had been kept in custody in Leopoldov for communist activities during the war.

2. Deputy Commandant:

Johann Bezecky, head superintendent, Slovak, about 43 years old, is a Communist and has served as a prison superintendent since the time of the first republic.

3. Prison Staff:(a) Strength

190 superintendents (as of mid-August 1949), including 30 SNB men, who, under the command of a 2d Lt of the SNB, arrived in Leopoldov in early August.

(b) Superintendents

(1) Koruc, about 30 years old, Czech, a former partisan and member of the Soviet Army.

(2) Babis, superintendent and political prison instructor. He has unrestricted control over the prisoners. He executes his political enlightenment activities by regularly seeing the prisoners and placing

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- 2 -

communist posters and slogans in the cells.

4. Number of Prisoners:

About 1,300 prisoners were in the prison in early August 1949, all men.

5. The Prisoners' Composition:

The inmates are about 90 percent political prisoners, most of Slovak nationality. The former Slovak general, Josef Turanec, is one of the prisoners.

6. Transfer of Prisoners to Labor Camps.

Political prisoners serving terms of up to two years in jail had been transferred to hard labor camps since July 1949. Physically able prisoners serving terms exceeding two years were sent to Joachimsthal (Jachymov) for hard labor. During source's imprisonment, transports of about 100 prisoners each left for there on 9 and 13 August 1949.

II.

Novaky Hard Labor Camp (10 km S of Privitz-Prividza)7. Commandant:

Mayek, 2d Lt of the SSB, Slovak. He has held this office since August 1949.

8. Number of Prisoners:

About 4,000 (as of early November 1949)

9. Work Projects:(a) Outdoor Details

Outdoor details of prisoners were engaged in the following:

Novaky coal mines
Novaky chemical factory
Novaky quarry
Prividza (Privitz) gravel pit.

(b) Branch Camps

Branch camps were established for temporary work to be done at remote places and were dissolved after the completion of the work. The prisoners and the guards of these branch camps are controlled by the Novaky camp. There are, at present, the following branch camps assigned to the Novaky hard labor camp:

- (1) Bratislava for the construction of a post office building.
- (2) Hronec, in the Brezno and Hronom district, for the construction of a new hard labor camp.
- (3) Moravska Sv. Jan, for making extensive building repairs at the castle located there.

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